

August 11, 2016

## **Howard County to offer weekend Ellicott City cleanup from George Howard Building**

ELLCOTT CITY, MD –Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman announced today that access to Ellicott City's Main Street for those displaced by the recent storm will originate at the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive on both Saturday, Aug. 13 and Sunday, Aug. 14 between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Merchants, residents, building owners and their guests (friends, family members and employees, etc.) will be transported to Main Street locations by bus. All must be credentialed to gain access to the cleanup site.

Credentialing will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at the George Howard Building.

People may also be credentialed in the Disaster Assistance Center Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Access to the Main Street area has been suspended since Monday night to give county public time to examine infrastructure throughout the Main Street area. With much of those assessments complete, county officials have determined that residents, merchants and building owners can return this weekend to continue their own cleanup efforts.

"We appreciate the patience the community has shown to allow us time to go our necessary evaluations," Kittleman said. "Getting them back in the area has been a priority for us and I'm glad we will be able to do it again. While we still have a long way to go, we are making real, meaningful progress every day."

The cleanup weekend is intended to allow residents and owners another opportunity to remove trash and debris from their properties. The county will provide 12 dumpsters along Main Street to facilitate the cleanup.

County health officials say forecasts of high heat and humidity will make the temperatures feel well over 105 degrees, so they remind participants to stay cool and hydrated. Cooling stations and first aid tents will be set up along Main Street. Officials add that conditions in buildings may pose hazardous health concerns, particularly for those with breathing problems, the immuno-compromised, the elderly and children.

A truck with cleaning supplies will be on hand at the 50+ Center, 9401 Frederick Road, on Friday, Aug. 12 from 5 – 7 p.m. for residents, merchants and building owners who would like to pick up supplies in advance of this weekend's clean-up days. The same truck, subject to the availability of supplies, will also be at the staging area at the George Howard Building on Saturday. The truck is being coordinated by private volunteers and not by the county

Residents and owners may bring non-credentialed guests, who will be granted one-day access. The number of guests permitted is not limited, but they must stay with a credentialed resident or owner. Insurance adjusters and private contractors are permitted as guests of credentialed residents and owners.

When coming to the site, all participants should:

- Wear solid, closed toe footwear, preferably an over the ankle work boot or hiking boot.
- Wear long pants and consider wearing a long sleeved shirt.
- Bring work gloves and eye protection, if possible.
- Bring a flashlight due to the current power outage.

In other recovery news ...

Members of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, along with a private towing company, began retrieving flood-damaged vehicles from the Patapsco River. Howard County Police Department is in the process of contacting those owners. In the coming days, crews are planning to remove more of the vehicles.

For those looking to volunteer, but are not associated with a specific business or resident, or for residents or businesses who want to *request assistance* from volunteers, they may go to the EC Flood Recovery site at [howardcountymd.gov](http://howardcountymd.gov).

For more information, call 410-313-2900 or visit [howardcountymd.gov](http://howardcountymd.gov).

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